# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:31
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008
PRODUCTION OF SALT
Chinta Mohan Dr. ;Dhanaraju Dr. K.;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether there is any gap between the demand and supply of salt in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is fixing the minimum support price for procurement of salt;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to monitor the fluctuations in the salt price and the production of economy salt and its sale;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and (g) if not, the steps taken by the Government to provide affordable salt to the country?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): No, Sir. India produces salt surplus to its requirement.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Central Government or State Governments where salt is produced are not procuring any salt nor fixing minimum support price.

(e) to (g): The Government is monitoring price of edible salt along with other essential commodities. For the present , there is no proposal for production of economy salt by the Government. Mostly, the production of salt is in private and cooperative sector. However, some of the state Governments have included edible salt in their Public Distribution System / Fair Price Shops for distribution to people below poverty line, tribal population, etc., in their respective states.